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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Artillery Units at Kiskunhalas



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1. There is an artillery brigade command at Kiskunhalas, established in a three-story house on the church plaza. Under this brigade command are: a motorized artillery regiment at Kiskunhalas, another motorized artillery regiment whose station is not known, a communications battalion and an artillery officers' school, both at Kiskunhalas.
 2. The Szegedi artillery barracks is a new structure, completed in 1950. It is 2,500 m southeast of the town, near the Kiskunhalas-Szeged road. It consists of: a three-story staff building, 25 by 60 m, containing staff offices and quarters; two three-story quarters, each 25 by 60 m, which also contain magazines; one two-story building, 40 by 40 m, with the hospital, guardhouse and heads of the officers' school; a gun garage, 27 by 80 m; a one-story garage and repair shop 15 by 42 m; a one-story weapon repair shop, 10 by 40 m.
 3. The artillery reserve officers' school has 110 to 115 students.
 4. The communications battalion is motorized and has 420 to 450 men.
 5. The motorized artillery regiment Its regimental troops consist of: a reconnaissance platoon, 32 men, equipped with 41-M periscopes with a ten power magnification; a telephone platoon, 36 to 40 men; a radio platoon, 26 to 28 men, with four V/3 radios. The 1st Section is commanded by 1st Lieut. Lajos Koteles, 29 years old. The staff consists of a deputy commander, a political officer, a reconnaissance officer, a ranging officer, an operations officer, a communications squad. This

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section is an NCO School, and therefore has a special organization. The gun platoons are not divided into half-platoons but into four gun squads, each with a single gun. The commander of the 1st Battery is Lieut. Janos M. Szabo. The battery has a radio squad and two platoons. Its strength is five officers, 14 NCOs and 125 to 130 men. The 2nd battery is similarly organized. The men of the 1st Section are mixed, half of them belonging to older classes, back to 1922. NCO training lasts four months; the personnel is thus changed three times a year. The 1st Battery is armed with eight AT guns, 57 mm; the 2nd Battery with eight 76.2 mm AT guns.

6. The 2nd Section is 280 to 290 strong and consists of two batteries. The 3rd Section has 255-270 men and two batteries. The 2nd section has twenty-two 57 mm AT guns, and there has been discussion of organizing a third battery under it. The 3rd section has eight 76.2 mm AT guns.
7. Firing exercises are held on the target range at Luganovsk [sic]. The guns fire at 3,000 m range at wooden targets of the size and shape of a tank. Every artillerist must fire at least twice. Two hits are obtained in every 15 shots. The firing training is considered very good.
8. During 1952 and 1953 reserves of the classes 1922 to 1926 were recalled for refresher training, almost all of them men who served in the artillery in World War II. Between 35 and 50 percent of them became NCOs.
9. Discipline is very severe. The officers are all reliable Communists.
10. The auto park of the regiment consists of six Jeeps, 12 trucks, 30 weapon prime movers, and two passenger cars.
11. The old infantry barracks is 620 m north of the railroad station. It has been reconstructed and can take 600 men. It is now occupied by an infantry battalion of 450 to 470 men.

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